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Becker et al.

09/876,238

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## In the claims:

## Please amend the claim 1 as follows:

1. (amended) A light source comprising:

a sealed, light-transmissive tube containing high pressure gases or high pressure gas mixtures at a high pressure which emits a hydrogen Lyman- $\alpha$  emission line at a wavelength of 121.6 nm and a hydrogen Lyman- $\beta$  emission line at a wavelength of 102.5 nm;

a microhollow cathode (MHC) discharge comprising a first electrode mounted within said tube, said first electrode consisting of a conductor having a single hole or a plurality of holes therein, each of said holes having an arbitrary shape and an area in the range from 0.001 mm<sup>2</sup> to 1 mm<sup>2</sup>;

a second electrode mounted within said tube and spaced from first electrode by an insulator which has a hole or holes similar to the hole(s) in the first electrode;

electrical means for coupling electrical energy to said first and second electrodes for producing discharges in each of the holes in said first electrode;

both electrodes having a thickness in the range from 0.05 mm to 0.5 mm; and

the insulating spacer having a thickness in the range of 0.1  $\,$  mm to 1 mm.

